THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) Length of widening to four lane of National Highway-1 A from Jalandhar to Pathankot (up to J&K Border) is 125.42,km. Out of this, widening to four lane of Jalandhar-Bhogpur section (2177km) has been completed.

(b) The entire stretch of Jalandhar-Pathankot Section is likely to be completed by December, 2008.

Quality of roads under Golden Quadrilateral

†3163. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the manner in which the quality of road constructed under Golden Quadrilateral Scheme is checked;

(b) whether any deficiency regarding their construction has been found after checking the same; and

(c) if so, what measures have been adopted to remove those deficiencies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIAPPA): (a) The quality control of the construction of four-laning works are monitored by Independent Consultants (who are generally International Consultants) appointed through International Competitive Bidding by National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) for supervision of the civil contract and who act as Engineer for administration of the contract. Quality standards for construction of the road is governed by "Specification for Road and Bridge Works" published by Ministry of Shipping, Road Transport and Highways/Indian Roads Congress and these specifications are-part of the ContractAgreement. Quality tests are regularly carried out at field laboratories by Supervision Consultants. Further, quality audits are also being carried out by NHAI.

(b) and (c) Whenever any deficiency or defects of not conforming to the technical specification in construction are found, remedial action is taken by the Engineer for rejection/replacement/rectification of work/material as per provision of the ContractAgreement. Similarly, defects detected during defect liability period (which is normally 12 months from the date of completion of the project) are also rectified by the contractor as part of the obligations as per contract.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.